

# **State of Alaska FY2008 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Public Safety Aircraft Section Component Budget Summary**

## Component: Aircraft Section

### Contribution to Department's Mission

Preserve public peace, protect life, property, and resources.

### Core Services

The aircraft section supports the Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Office of the Governor, and Department of Corrections. The section's aircraft mechanics maintain the department's aircraft by performing routine scheduled maintenance and inspections as well as emergency repairs. They also perform complete aircraft engine and airframe overhauls and rebuilds necessary to keep vintage aircraft in operation.

Distances in Alaska are vast and, in many areas, the only practical means of accomplishing law enforcement missions requires use of aircraft. The Alaska State Troopers (AST) must enforce fish and game regulations throughout the 586,000 square miles of Alaska as well as its 36,000 miles of coastline and must respond to emergencies throughout the state. In most of Alaska, there are no roads. The aircraft section also supports the department's obligations to perform search and rescue missions using modern helicopters equipped with specialized equipment. The aircraft section provides the department with aircraft that are safe and dependable to complete their patrols and other law enforcement assignments. Skilled and timely aircraft maintenance is critical to ensure airworthy aircraft.

The aircraft section provides annual training to all department pilots. Other law enforcement and state agency pilots also participate in the DPS aircraft safety seminar. Proficiency check rides are provided to all department pilots as required by federal regulations and DPS policy.

### FY2008 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

**FY2008 Component Budget: \$5,220,400**

**Personnel:**

Full time	15
Part time	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

### Key Component Challenges

**PATROL AIRCRAFT FUEL PRICE INCREASES** – Aviation gasoline (avgas) prices have fluctuated dramatically over this past year due to world market volatility. The aircraft section has seen close to a 40 percent increase in aviation fuel costs.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (CIP) BUDGET** – To maintain the department's aircraft fleet, an annual CIP appropriation is needed to fund the major expenses connected with replacing equipment beyond economical repair, avionics, replacement propeller blades, airframe overhauls, engine overhauls, etc. It is cost-effective to maintain existing aircraft compared to the cost of new aircraft suited for this division's enforcement requirements. When navigational equipment or radios are upgraded, new technology greatly improves safety, navigational capability, and communications. The department is attempting to standardize equipment and avionics to reduce required stocking levels and simplify inventory through a four-year project to eliminate older, non-standard components (for example radios and GPS navigation systems).

The aircraft section is presently housed in an over 40-year old hangar that has structural problems and is too small to house all of the department's aircraft, resulting in increased lease and operational costs. The Department of Public Safety is currently looking for a long-term solution to modernize the antiquated facilities at the aircraft section.

AS-350 (HELO-1) MAINTENANCE – The primary search and rescue helicopter for AST is maintained by DPS mechanics. This helicopter is extremely complex. The local helicopter maintenance vendor previously used for support closed its facility. The department has trained two maintenance technicians to perform routine maintenance on the helicopter and now uses the original equipment manufacturer, American Eurocopter, to support any major maintenance requirements.

AIRCRAFT MECHANICS – The section's six aircraft mechanics maintain the 42 department-owned aircraft used by the Division of Alaska State Troopers. When aircraft work must be contracted out to vendors because section mechanics are working to capacity, field enforcement efforts are reduced. The state cannot dictate a contract vendor's work order priorities and time delays occur. Additional delays are caused by unfamiliarity with the aircraft, maintenance manuals not readily available for particular aircraft, and the proximity of where the aircraft is parked to where the work is to be performed, etc. It is critical that a high standard of quality be maintained for each 100 hour or annual inspection and all repairs. Contracting for maintenance at a remote location costs more and increases aircraft non-available time, which is critical during peak enforcement seasons.

AVIONICS SUPPORT – The DPS contract for avionics (electronics) support has received marginal vendor response for the last two fiscal years.

### **Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2008**

Funding was appropriated in FY2006 to expand the Department of Public Safety's aircraft operator training program to aid in recruitment and retention efforts. This original concept is designed to fill the department's critical need for trooper pilots to provide the most efficient and effective response to criminal activity and search and rescue in Alaska's rural areas. The primary focus is on selecting established troopers with no flight experience to attend necessary ground school and flight training and become certified state pilots. This program also targets troopers that may have some flight skills and experience, but need additional training and flight time to become proficient in flying state aircraft. This new program has been implemented, and the section plans to continue training new trooper pilots during FY2007 and FY2008.

The aircraft section is currently evaluating a replacement to the vintage PA-18 Supercub fleet that has served the state so well for many years. The Aviat A-1B Husky was selected as the possible improved "bush plane." After a thorough evaluation, one aircraft will be procured and placed in the field for further evaluation to ensure this is in fact the right aircraft to support all the demanding Department of Public Safety mission profiles. This aircraft will replace one PA-18 Super Cub aircraft that was deemed uneconomical to refurbish.

### **Major Component Accomplishments in 2006**

This critical support component shares everyday in the overall accomplishments of the Division of Alaska State Troopers. Without the flexibility and mobility afforded by well-equipped aircraft and professionally trained pilots, much of Alaska would be unprotected and patrolled less frequently. The department flew 7,170 hours in support of department missions including ferrying of aircraft between locations and training pilots.

The department's Robinson R44 helicopters have continued to prove their worth in all areas of patrol and investigation. The three R44 helicopters are often able to perform search and rescues, Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement, and other law enforcement missions where fixed wing aircraft are unable to safely land, preventing damage to department fixed wing assets and personnel.

An example of just one helicopter and pilot's activity in June FY2006 was 23 flight hours spent on 15 search and rescues that resulted in rescuing seven individuals, performing two medivacs, and recovering one deceased person. There are many more examples of the value of these resources and need for continued support of this program.

During the spring of FY2006 the department's primary rescue helicopter, the Astar-Eurocopter, was damaged during a night search and rescue of a missing person. The aircraft was shipped out of state for several months for repairs. This loss put an added burden on our R-44 helicopter fleet, but the department was able to manage and continue to provide the quality service for search and rescue missions the public has come to expect.

The aircraft section's mechanics performed a high volume of necessary maintenance and repairs including:

- Contracting out 49 annual and 100-hour inspections including four 200-hour inspections for the King Air.
- Performing 4 King Air engine changes.
- Performing 15 in-house annual and 100-hour inspections and one 200-hour inspection for the King Air.
- Completing six 100-hour / annual inspections on Cessna Caravans.
- Performing 45 major alterations and repairs requiring an FAA Form 337.
- Completing two Super Cub engine changes.
- Completing one C-185 and one C-182 engine change.
- Completing the inspection for sale of one department aircraft.
- Completing inspections on three seized aircraft.
- Completing return to service preparation on one preserved aircraft.
- Completing five major rebuilds on aircraft floats.
- Completing one complete new amphibious float system installation.
- Opening 173 total work orders for FY2006 to accomplish the above work, perform gear changes, and repair discrepancies on all 42 department aircraft.
- Completed four major aircraft ski repairs.
- Completed 4 inspections on the SA 350 SAR helicopter.
- Prepared for sale one King Air aircraft.

## Statutory and Regulatory Authority

DPS - Powers and duties of department (AS 44.41.020)  
 State Troopers (AS 18.65.010 - AS 18.65.110)  
 Police Protection (AS 18.65.010 - AS 18.65.790)  
 Law enforcement duties (AS 18.65.010 - AS 18.65.086)  
 Controlled Substances (AS 11.71.010 - AS 11.71.900)  
 Judicial Services (AS 22.20.100 - AS 22.20.140)  
 Prisoner Transportation (AS 33.30.071 and AS 33.30.081)  
 Search & Rescue (AS 18.60.120 - AS 18.60.175)  
 Village Public Safety Officer Definition (AS 01.10.060(c)(7)(C))  
 VPSO Program (AS 18.65.670)  
 VPSO Regulations (13 AAC 96.010-900)  
 Concealed Handgun Permits (AS 18.65.700)  
 Security Guard Licensing (AS 18.65.400 - AS 18.65.410)  
 Sex Offender Registration (AS 12.63.010 - AS 12.63.100)  
 Central Registry of Sex Offenders (AS 18.65.087)  
 Department to assist other agencies (AS 18.65.090)  
 Document and disseminate information regarding homicides (AS 44.41.040)  
 Document and investigate missing persons (AS 18.65.610)  
 Investigate fires resulting from crimes (AS 18.70.030)  
 Investigate sexual assault and child exploitation (AS 18.65.086)  
 Aeronautics (AS 02)  
 Criminal (AS 11)  
 Environment (AS 46)  
 Fish & Game (AS 16)  
 Fish & Game (5 AAC)  
 Guide/Outfitting (12 AAC)  
 Guide/Outfitting (AS 08)  
 Health & Safety (AS 18)  
 Limited Entry (20 AAC)  
 State Government (AS 44)

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### Aircraft Section Component Financial Summary

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
<b>Non-Formula Program:</b>			
<b>Component Expenditures:</b>			
71000 Personal Services	1,278.4	1,439.9	1,635.2
72000 Travel	92.9	86.8	86.8
73000 Services	1,376.6	2,563.0	2,563.0
74000 Commodities	1,183.7	660.4	935.4
75000 Capital Outlay	300.8	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure Totals</b>	<b>4,232.4</b>	<b>4,750.1</b>	<b>5,220.4</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>			
1003 General Fund Match	80.0	0.0	0.0
1004 General Fund Receipts	3,212.4	4,197.5	4,392.8
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts	826.1	552.6	827.6
1134 Fish and Game Criminal Fines and Penalties	113.9	0.0	0.0
<b>Funding Totals</b>	<b>4,232.4</b>	<b>4,750.1</b>	<b>5,220.4</b>

### Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
<b>Unrestricted Revenues</b>				
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Unrestricted Total</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Restricted Revenues</b>				
Interagency Receipts	51015	826.1	552.6	827.6
Fish and Game Fund	51045	113.9	0.0	0.0
<b>Restricted Total</b>		<b>940.0</b>	<b>552.6</b>	<b>827.6</b>
<b>Total Estimated Revenues</b>		<b>940.0</b>	<b>552.6</b>	<b>827.6</b>

**Summary of Component Budget Changes  
From FY2007 Management Plan to FY2008 Governor**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2007 Management Plan</b>	<b>4,197.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>552.6</b>	<b>4,750.1</b>
<b>Adjustments which will continue current level of service:</b>				
-Redistribute Interagency Receipt Authority	0.0	0.0	275.0	275.0
-FY 08 Wage and Health Insurance Increases for Troopers and Airport Security	4.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
<b>Proposed budget increases:</b>				
-FY 08 Retirement Systems Rate Increases	191.3	0.0	0.0	191.3
<b>FY2008 Governor</b>	<b>4,392.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>827.6</b>	<b>5,220.4</b>

### Aircraft Section Personal Services Information

Authorized Positions			Personal Services Costs	
	<u>FY2007</u> <u>Management</u> <u>Plan</u>	<u>FY2008</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	15	15	Annual Salaries	788,500
Part-time	0	0	COLA	4,556
Nonpermanent	0	0	Premium Pay	122,618
			Annual Benefits	674,774
			<i>Less 1.52% Vacancy Factor</i>	(24,248)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	69,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Personal Services</b>	<b>1,635,200</b>

### Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Administrative Assistant	1	0	0	0	1
Administrative Clerk II	1	0	0	0	1
Aircraft Pilot I	0	0	0	1	1
Aircraft Pilot II	3	0	0	0	3
Aircraft Supervisor	1	0	0	0	1
Mech Aircraft Adv Jrny	6	0	0	0	6
Public Safety Technician II	1	0	0	0	1
State Trooper	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>